



cultural services division

artline

city of torrance

GREASE IS THE WORD!

On the heels of an amazing (*and Sold Out*) run of *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, the Torrance Theatre Company sets its sights on the most popular rock 'n' roll musical of all time... **GREASE!**

This summer "Grease" is definitely THE word! It's a magical and musical story of friendship, love, and coming of age in the 1950's.

The musical *Grease* was written by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey and actually came before the movie; in fact, it premiered in New York on February 14, 1972, featuring Barry Bostwick as Danny Zuko and Adrienne Barbeau as Rizzo. In 1978 the story was immortalized on the silver screen with performances by John Travolta, Olivia Newton-John, Jeff Conway and Stockard Channing. It has won over generations of audiences with its rock 'n' roll soundtrack and its homage to the golden age of the 1950's.

The Torrance Theatre Company is excited to welcome Director Jim Hormel from Cypress College to lead the production team this summer, in addition to TTC newcomer K C



Jim Hormel directs Grease, the Torrance Theatre Company's 2006 summer musical production.

Gussler as Choreographer, and TTC veteran, Rick Heckman as Musical Director.

Grease opens August 5, with a special pre-show celebration beginning in the plaza at 6 pm. The show runs three weekends and there are special pre-show events at several of the shows, including car shows, Prom Night, and Frenchie Fridays! For more information go to www.torrancetheatrecompany.com

Reserved seating is \$25.00. Call the Box Office at 310-781-7171. **Special Opening Night offer: ALL tickets are \$15.00.**

Danny is played by Freeman Land and Sandy is Stacey Rea

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

GREASE

*James Armstrong
Theatre*

*August 5, 11, 12, 17,
18 & 19 at 8 pm*

*August 6, 12, 13,
& 19 at 2 pm*

*Tickets \$25
Call 781-7171*



The 2006 EXCELLENCE IN ARTS AWARDS

The Cultural Arts Commission and the City of Torrance Cultural Services Division awarded the winners of the 29th Annual Excellence in Arts Awards on April 30 at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center.

Open nominations were received from Torrance residents, colleagues and Torrance Cultural Arts Commissioners. Committees consisting of past winners and experts screened the nominations for each discipline and during a public meeting, commissioners voted on the final selections.

Anyone interested in nominating awardees for the 2007 Excellence Awards should call Debbie Collins at (310) 618-2376 for application details.

Starlight Productions represented by Nancy Freytes-Gomez (center) was awarded the Excellence in Arts Award for Music by Mayor Dan Walker and Commissioner Benito Miranda.



Li-Hon Ko (center) and one her students received the Excellence in Arts Award for the South Bay Angels in Dance by Mayor Dan Walker and Commissioner Benito Miranda.



Bonnie Mae Barnard (center) was awarded the Excellence in Arts Award for Literary Arts by Mayor Dan Walker and Commissioner Ann Smisek.

Mary P. Miller (center) was awarded the Katy Geissert Award by Mayor Dan Walker and Commissioner Debbie Stadler as an individual that demonstrated outstanding support for promotion of the arts in the Torrance community.



Richard Heckman (center) was awarded the Excellence in Arts Award for Music by Mayor Dan Walker and Commissioner June Armstrong.



Ruby Wang (center) was awarded the Excellence in Arts Award for Visual Arts by Mayor Dan Walker and Commission Chair Kim Wang.



Dr. Dennis Puckett (center) was awarded the Excellence in Arts Award for Arts Education by Mayor Dan Walker and Commissioner Marianne Strehler.

TORRANCE ART MUSEUM: FLOURISH JUNE 2 - JULY 29

The Torrance Art Museum is pleased to present three new exhibitions that operate on a shared theme of Baroque sensibilities. All exhibitions are on view simultaneously from June 2 – July 29.

Flourish

Artworks by Alicia Beach, Maura Bendett, Betsy Davis, Marcy Freedman, Alexandra Grant, Mara Lonner, Ceres Madoo, Takeshi Murata, John Rose, Phoebe Sarason, Carole Silverstein, Carrie Ungerman, Alexis Weidig, Jay Willis

To flourish is to grow vigorously, thrive, and prosper. In handwriting, a flourish is an extravagant tangle of lines that embellishes text. While in art, craft and architecture, the flourish has become a visible manifestation of sweeping, foliated motion. Although devised to accentuate some primary object—whether signature, vaulted ceiling, candelabra, or painting—the flourish has a tendency to become entirely extraneous to the item it adorns, at times even excessively so. Indeed, at the height of its usage as an element of late Baroque Rococo style, the flourish threatened to overrun the very thing it was meant to support. These artworks share with their Rococo predecessors a special light-heartedness characterized both by dynamic and sensuous compositions, as well as by a bright palette of color.



Lawrence Tzuchi Yun



Peggy Reavey

Lawrence Tzuchi Yun: *Greenhouse Laboratory*

Lawrence Tzuchi Yun's series reveals the intriguing relationship between nature and culture, natural phenomena versus man-made creation. Working in a realist manner, Yun creates fantastical hybrid imagery of flowers, indulging in a form of biological enhancement. As he sees it, he engages in a "miracle grow" practice that is beyond real.

Transformation from one type of being into another in violation of the laws of nature was a Baroque preoccupation. During the peak of Baroque artistic production, plants regularly morphed into exotic animals while robust foliage was made to conform to the dictates of geometry. The whimsy of Baroque hybrids belied our deep-seated fear of monstrosity. The word "monster" originally meant "portent." Monsters frighten us because they have no precedent in nature. The emergence of monstrosity has traditionally signified disruption of natural order, possibly even portending the disintegration of humanity from the natural world.

Yun's delicately-rendered floral hybrids in *Greenhouse Laboratory* are gentle monsters. They do however, serve to remind us of our ambivalence about transformation in an era of increasing genetic modification

Peggy Reavey: *Food and Shelter*

Peggy Reavey's mixed media paintings on cardboard reveal her ongoing fascination with fantastical narrative imagery. Intensely personal and subjective, her images are phantasmagorical, but with that hint of inchoate dread common to dreamlife. In her latest series, Reavey explores our desire for shelter and sustenance in depictions of people and animals interacting with their environs.

Although closer in temperament to Gothic artworks, Reavey's paintings also display elements of the Baroque. Thickets of vegetal patterns and sweeping lines encroach from background to the foreground. Reavey's interest in pattern has to do with its ubiquity—although often beautiful, the patterns of life are also relentless, be they the internalized rhythm of time's passage or more banal repetitions such as floral motifs in wallpaper or cars parked in a row.

While Reavey is consoled by pattern, she also finds its monotony to be intrusive. Indeed, like some remarkably vital undergrowth, repeated patterns trespass upon the very subjects of *Food and Shelter*.

Curator's Talk: Contemporary Art and Visual Pleasure Thursday, June 29, 7:30 – 9 pm *Free*
Starters Music Series: Singer/songwriter Marina V. Thursday, July 13, 6 – 9 pm *Cover: \$5*

The exhibits Flourish; Lawrence Tzuchi Yun: Greenhouse Laboratory; and Peggy Reavey: Food and Shelter have been made possible in partnership with the Torrance Cultural Arts Center Foundation, Inc. Educational programming has been supplemented by a generous grant from Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe and his 2005 Arts Education Partnership.

Admission to exhibits at the Torrance Art Museum is free. Regular hours of operation are Tuesday through Saturday, from 12 - 6 pm. Additional information about special events and upcoming arts programming at the Torrance Art Museum can be requested by email at torranceartmuseum@torrnet.com or by calling 310-618-6340.

Torrance Chorale at Carnegie Hall



Some representatives of the Torrance Civic Chorale, led by David Burks, Artistic Director and Conductor, joined other adult choristers from professional, semi-professional and community choruses from across the United States to perform Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's, "Mass in C minor, K427", also known as his "Grand Mass", at Carnegie Hall.



July, August, September Events Calendar

Tuesday, July 11

12:10 - 1 p.m.

Artful Days - Manet? Monet? What's the difference? An in-depth look at Manet who paved the way for Monet and the other impressionists, followed by an analysis of the works of Monet and how his application of paint revolutionized the Paris art world. A FREE lecture presented by art historian, Mary Drobny.

Wednesday, July 12

11:45 - 1:15 p.m.

Wild Wednesdays - FREE lunchtime entertainment featuring the music of Andre Thierry & Zydeco Magic. Bring a brown bag or order from the lunch vendors.

Tuesday, July 11

7 p.m.

TAG Meeting held in the George Nakano Theatre.

Wednesday, July 12

11:45 - 1:15 p.m.

Wild Wednesdays - FREE lunchtime entertainment featuring the music of Andre Thierry & Zydeco Magic. Bring a brown bag or order from lunch vendors.

Wednesday, July 12

7:30 p.m.

Parks & Recreation Commission - Meeting open to public in the Commission Room

Thursday, July 13, July 27

4-6 p.m.

Stories in Art - FREE! A storytelling and art workshop for children ages 5-10. At the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library. Registration: 310-618-5964 required.

Monday, July 17

7 p.m.

Cultural Arts Commission - Meeting is open to public in the Commission Room

Wednesday, July 26

11:45 - 1:15 p.m.

Wild Wednesdays - FREE lunchtime entertainment featuring the music of the Mary White Band. Bring a brown bag or order from lunch vendors.

Friday, July 28 - Saturday, July 29

8 p.m.

Shakespeare - FREE performances of Hamlet on the 28th and Comedy of Errors on the 29th under the stars at the Wilson Park Gazebo. Wear warm clothing and bring folding chairs, blankets and possibly a picnic dinner.

Tuesday, August 1

12:10 - 1 p.m.

Artful Days - Seurat and his Dots After impressionists, Seurat took the next step in analyzing color and the application of paint to the surface of the canvas. Study his great work *Sunday Afternoon on the Grand Jatte* and learn his technique. A FREE lecture presented by art historian, Mary Drobny at the George Nakano Theatre.

Saturday, August 5

8 p.m.

Grease - One of the most successful shows of all time, a magical and musical story of friendship, love and coming of age in the '50s. Toes will tap to the favorites like *Summer Nights*, *Greased Lightnin'*, and *Beauty School Dropout*. Come Opening Night and join in the festivities, pre-show entertainment and food. Admission \$25.

Tuesday, August 8

7 p.m.

TAG Meeting held in the George Nakano Theatre.

Wednesday, August 9

11:45 - 1:15 p.m.

Wild Wednesdays - FREE lunchtime entertainment featuring the Dixieland music of Night Blooming Jazzmen. Bring a brown bag or order from the lunch vendors.

Wednesday, August 9

7:30 p.m.

Parks & Recreation Commission - Meeting open to public in the Commission Room

Monday, August 21

7 p.m.

Cultural Arts Commission - Meeting is open to public in the Commission Room

Wednesday, August 23

11:45 - 1:15 p.m.

Wild Wednesdays - FREE! lunchtime entertainment featuring the latin rhythms of Conjunto Jardin. Bring a brown bag lunch or order from lunch vendors.

Friday - Sunday, August 25- 27

2pm & 7p.m.

Beauty & The Beast - A Disney version presentation by the Starlight Productions youth theatre. Get tickets (\$12.) early: 310-781-7171. Shows are always soldout.

Tuesday, September 5

12:10 - 1 p.m.

Artful Days - Van Gogh, Van Gogh & more Van Gogh. the much discussed, loved and criticized artist is now up for debate again. Let's study his more than 200 paintings and you decide if they are worth more than \$50 million. A FREE lecture presented by art historian, Mary Drobny at the George Nakano Theatre.

Tuesday, September 12

7 p.m.

TAG Meeting held in the George Nakano Theatre.

Wednesday, September 13

7:30 p.m.

Parks & Recreation Commission - Meeting open to public in the Commission Room

Monday, September 18

7 p.m.

Cultural Arts Commission - Meeting is open to public in the Commission Room